(c) and (d) A system has already been put in place for reception, interrogation and sifting out the militant elements from ordinary refugees. The militants/their supporters are detained in Special Camps for restricting their movements.

(e) About 57,000 refugees who entered India before 1992 are still staying in refugee camps in Tamil Nadu. About 30,000 refugees who are registered with the State Government are living outside the refugee camps.

(f) The Government of India have conveyed their concerns at the recent refugee influx to the Sri Lankan authorities who have assured that efforts are being made to control the situation. These include the steps to ensure adequate food supplies, relief activities and presence of International Relief Agencies in the area. There is no recent influx of refugees from Mynamar. As regards Bangladesh, the problem of illegal migration has been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh, on various occasions. The Various measures taken to curb and prevent infiltration include strengthening of the BSF, fencing, flood lighting and patrolling; surveillance on the coastal area and intelligence gathering, sharing and coordination. JWG and BSF-BDR Fora are also regularly used for raising the issue in the context of proposed preventive measures.

[Translation]

Directorate of Maize

5078. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the place where the Directorate of Maize is located;

(b) whether the maximum maize is produced in Bihar particularly in Begusarai district;

(c) if so, whether no maize research centre is there;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to set up Directorate of Maize in Begusarai district of Bihar; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The Directorate of Maize Research (ICAR) is located at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

(b) Yes, Sir. Maximum maize is produced in Bihar. In Bihar, Begusarai has maximum area.

(c) Under the All India Coordinated Maize Improvement Project (ICAR), two research centres are already in operation at Agwanpur (Distt. Saharsa) and Dholi (Distt. Muzaffarpur). The Agwanpur Centre is just adjacent to Begusarai district and caters to the need of Begusarai region also.

(d) and (e) It is proposed to develop a Centre of Excellence for Maize Research at IARI,Regional Station, Pusa, Distt. Samastipur (Bihar) under the Directorate of Maize Research. The Centre will cater to the need of entire Bihar State. Agwanpur centre will be further strengthened to work on improvement of maize for spring season. It is also proposed to open a centre during the IX Plan at Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi for the benefit of South Bihar and tribal areas.

[English]

Transportation of Essential Commodities

5079. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons for Karnataka allotted by the Railways for the transportation of essential commodities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the number of wagons allotted to Karnataka is sufficient for the transportation of essential commodities in Karnataka, and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the demand in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) Statistics regarding allotment of wagons is maintained Railway-wise and not State-wise. However, requirement of wagons for transportation of essential commodities to and from Karnataka are being adequately met.

[Translation]

Misuse of Railway Passes

5080. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the misuse of railway passes by the staff of Allahabad Division of the Northern Railway;

(b) if so, whether any order for inquiry was issued in this regard;

(c) whether the process of inquiry is still in progress or has been completed; and

(d) if so, the details of the persons found guilty and the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.